VOLUME 1
CHAPTER 1
TRANSLATOR
VICTORIEL
EDITOR.
NAIVCHAN
CREDITS PAGE
CARLI
PLEASE SUPPORT
THE AUTHORS!
TIGER & HUSKY
SCANLATIONS
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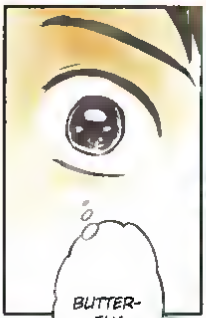
FROM THE AUTHOR OF "GINGITSUNE"!
LOOK AHEAD WHEN YOU ARE WALKING
HEY YOU!
Cat!
Sensee, a cat!
T/N. SENSEI MEANS TEACHER
THAT'S RIGHT
Sto-ne
It's a stone cat
A HA HA HA HA
The cat isn't moving
OCHIAI SAYORI
KING OF CHILDCARE

新★連★載
CHAPTER 1
IT'S STARTING!
OOTORI
GRAND OPENING!
THE DAY CARE WITH ONLY MALE TEACHERS!
Hoiku no Oh-sama
KING OF CHILDCARE
OCHIAI SAYORI WITH ISHIYAMA HORO

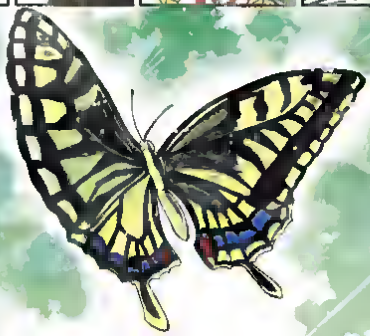
A HA HA HA HA ...



AH...

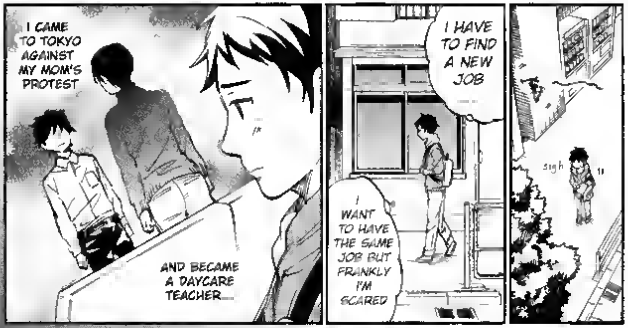
flop

BUTTER-
FLY
...



GROSS
YES! I WANT TO RAISE A BUTTERFLY LARVA
AND OBSERVE IT WITH KIDS...
BUTTERFLY?
ARE YOU GOING TO BUY A NEW EQUIPMENT?
I CAN'T TOUCH INSECTS
I'M NOT GOOD WITH THEM TOO...
WON'T THE GIRLS DISLIKE IT TOO?
BESIDES WE HAVE A KILLI-FISH ...
AND IF IT DOESN'T GO WELL THE KIDS WILL BE SAD
MUST BE NICE FOR MALE TEACHERS THEY ARE SO SIMPLE
IT'S BETTER TO HAVE SPRING EVENTS AS USUAL
THAT WAY WE DON'T HAVE TO WORRY

AHAHAHA...
Sensee~
HAHAHA

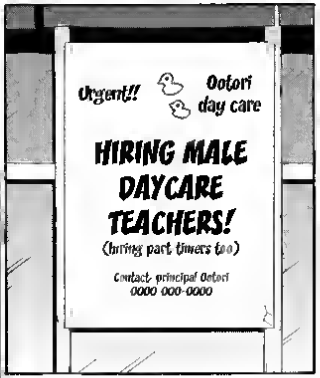

I CAME TO TOKYO AGAINST MY MOM'S PROTEST
AND BECAME A DAYCARE TEACHER...
I HAVE TO FIND A NEW JOB
I WANT TO HAVE THE SAME JOB BUT FRANKLY I'M SCARED
sigh

I'M FUKUDA IKU
PLEASE TAKE CARE OF ME

clap
clap
clap

OOTORI
保
DAY CARE
OOTORI

T/N. A WELCOMING CAT THAT BRINGS IN CUSTOMERS



I'M A HOUSE-WIFE...
BUT...
WHY DON'T YOU TAKE THE CHANCE AND ENROLL YOUR KID HERE?
DO YOU LIVE AROUND?
I WANTED TO RAISE HIM MYSELF UNTIL HE'S OLD ENOUGH FOR KINDER-GARDEN.
W-WHY AM I HIDING!

BUT EVENTUALLY THERE WILL BE REGRETS
sigh
IT'S BETTER TO PUT YOUR KID IN DAY CARE NOW
FOR THIS KID'S OWN GOOD TOO
WHY!? I'M PROPERLY
NO, THE ONE WHO WILL HAVE REGRETS...

I CAN'T STAND IT IF YOUR BEAUTY IS LOST ON CHILD-RAISING!!
IS ME !!!

INDEED, I HAVE MY HANDS FULL WITH THIS CHILD, BUT...
CHILD-RAISING IS TOUGH ISN'T IT? YOU DON'T HAVE ENOUGH TIME FOR YOURSELF TOO, RIGHT?
A HA HA HA
.....
I'M ALWAYS SERIOUS!
OH MY, PRINCIPAL-SAN! WHAT IF I TAKE IT SERIOUSLY!

THIS IS THE PRINCIPAL?
ABSOLUTELY!
THAT'S TRUE BUT...
EVEN A HOUSEWIFE NEEDS TIME FOR HERSELF FOR SHOPPING, HAIR SALON OR BEAUTY SHOP ETC...

WILL YOU TAKE HIM EVEN FROM A HOUSE-WIFE?
IF YOU ARE INTERESTED DEFINITELY COME!
OF COURSE WE ARE A NON-ACCREDITED DAY CARE CENTER*
BYE-BY-E
Yep!
DID YOU REALLY UNDER-STAND THAT--?
HA HA HA
YOU KIDDO, LIKE YOUR MAMA PRETTY TOO, RIGHT?
*SEE THE NOTES

...GEEZ
GETTING ALL OVER ME WITH HIS FILTHY HANDS
MY ARMS ONLY EXIST TO TOUCH WOMEN!
spray
!?
THE KID WAS UGLY BUT THE MAMA WAS PRETTY--
NEXT TIME I'LL INVITE HER FOR A MEAL
PRINCIPAL, A CALL FOR YOU
EEH...!?
WHAT'S WITH HIM!!?

THIS PRINCIPAL...!
WHY ARE YOU CALLING NOW!
DO YOU KNOW HOW MUCH MONEY WE LOST TODAY BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T SHOW UP?
YOU, CREEPY OTAKU NEET*!!
WHAT ARE YOU STARING AT!
GO AWAY!!
shoo shoo
ONLY SMILING AT MAMAS.

*NEET – NOT IN EMPLOYMENT, EDUCATION OR TRAINING

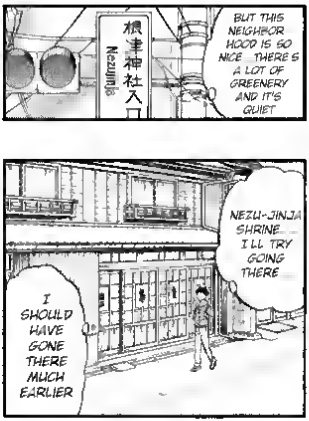
HE'S THE WORST PRINCIPAL!
I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF THIS DAY CARE!
GEEZ, EVERY DAY CARE IS...
IKU-SENSEI, USE THE TOILET IN A SITTING POSITION, OKAY?

AHAHA
IT'S ODD, ISN'T IT EVEN THOUGH KIDS TRAIN TO DO IT STANDING!
HA HA
AH, DON'T OPEN THE TOILET CUPBOARD IT'S ONLY FOR WOMEN
Y-YES!
WELL IT'S COMMON SENSE- THE CLEANING WILL BE AWFUL IF IT SPLATTERS ON THE WALL AND MAKES A STAIN
MY HUSBAND OFTEN MISSES THE MARK SO ANNOYING!
IT WOULD BE FINE IF THERE WAS A MALE TOILET
BUT WE CAN'T MAKE A SEPARATE TOILET JUST FOR YOU...
THIS IS IKU-SENSEI'S CHANGING ROOM.
SORRY IT'S A STOREROOM, BUT WE DON'T HAVE SPACE ANYWHERE ELSE
IT WAS HARD TO PUT A LOCKER THERE
WHEN YOU ARE CHANGING, DEFINITELY PUT UP THE "IN THE MIDDLE OF CHANGING" SIGN!
THEN, I'M LEAVING FIRST
Kyaa!
OPENS
IT'S AN OLD HABIT
AHAHAHA
BE MORE CAREFUL!
OH GOD YOU STARTLED ME! IKU-SENSEI IS HERE

I EXPLAINED IT TO THE PARENT PROPERLY, SAID THAT IT'S A NORMAL THING. .
I HEARD TAIGA-KUN FELL DOWN AND SCRAPED HIS KNEES!?
Iku-sensee
KYAA
GYA
HA HA HA
IKU-SEN-SEE!
Sensee
AHA HA HA
KYAA
I... I'M SORRY.
THEM PLAY IN MOD-ERATION
IT'S BECAUSE IKU-SENSEI GETS THEM TOO EXCITED!
WHAT'S NO GOOD IS NO GOOD!!
ANYWAY
THEN ....
GIVE ME A CONVIN-CING REASON!
ANNOYED
I CAN TAKE FULL RESPON-SIBILITY AND RAISE IT ALONE...
BUT I THINK BOYS WILL ENJOY IT.
IT'S HARD TO RAISE A BUTTER-FLY, RIGHT?
NO, IT'S NO GOOD!
THE PARENTS WILL SEE IT AS IF WE ARE FORCING THE WORK ON IKU-SENSEI!
GEEZ! THIS IS WHY MALE TEACHERS ARE...

COULD YOU NOT LET THE MALE TEACHER TOUCH HER?
SINCE SHE'S A GIRL...
IKU SENSEI
INDEED~~
I'M SORRY
YOU CAN'T WORK ONLY WITH KIDS. YOU UNDERSTAND THAT?
EVEN IF IT'S A DAY CARE YOU ALSO WORK WITH ADULTS
GOOD GRIEF! AND I'VE HAD HIGH HOPES FOR THE MALE TEACHER!
FOR REAL? HE HAS NO GUTS
THE MALE TEACHER FROM THE DAY CARE NEXT DOOR QUIT IN HALF A YEAR!
EVEN THOUGH HE'S A MAN, HE'S THE SAME HEIGHT AS ME
HE DOESN'T HAVE STRENGTH TOO
HE ONLY HAS H S YOUTH
I SHOULD... STOP REMEMBER-ING NOW...
I ALREADY QUIT...

元禄年間創祭
根津神社


根津神社入口
Nezujinja
BUT THIS NEIGHBORHOOD IS SO NICE. THERE'S A LOT OF GREENERY AND IT'S QUIET
NEZU-JINJA SHRINE... I'LL TRY GOING THERE
I SHOULD HAVE GONE THERE MUCH EARLIER
NOW I ALREADY SAW NATSUME SOUSEKI'S FORMER RESIDENCE
WHAT SHOULD I DO NEXT?
VANGSEN WALKING WITH HOLLYHOCK MASTERS
*SEE THE NOTES ABOUT THE BOOK

THERE ARE QUITE A LOT OF PEOPLE EVEN THOUGH IT'S A WEEKDAY
WELL, IT IS A FAMOUS SHRINE

*NII
OLDER
BROTHER
COME TO THINK OF IT...
DIDN'T I COME HERE TO PRAY WITH MY COUSIN SHUU-NII WHEN I CAME TO TOKYO FOR THE EXAMS?...
CLAP.
CLAP.
18
pat
AUNTIE WILL UNDERSTAND IT SOON
YEAH
AND I ONLY CAUSE HIM TO WORRY ABOUT MY TROUBLES WITH MOM...
SHUU-NII CARED FOR ME LIKE A REAL BROTHER...
HA HA HA
IT SHOULD'VE BEEN "I WANT TO GET ACCEPTED IN THE UNIVERSITY", RIGHT?
"I WANT TO BECOME A DAYCARE TEACHER LIKE SHUU-NII"
BY THE WAY. WHAT DID YOU WISH FOR?

IT'S ALRIGHT! WE'LL SEARCH FOR HER TOGETHER
DID YOU GET SEPARATED FROM YOUR MAMA?
WHAT HAPPENED!?
WAAAA
HEY YOU!!
SUDDENLY APPEARS
EH
WHAT DO YOU WANT WITH MY KID!?
MAMA AAA
WHAT SHOULD I SAY TO SHUU-NII!
AND HE ALSO MADE A CELEBRATION FOR MY EMPLOYMENT
sigh

COULD YOU NOT LET THE MALE TEACHER TOUCH HER?
AH...
GLARE
N-NO
I JUST..

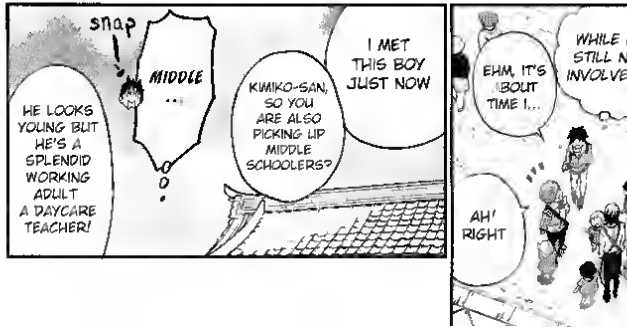
LATELY ALL STRANGERS ARE THOUGHT TO BE A BAD PERSON
WHAT ATTITUDE!
YOU! CAN'T FOLLOW STRANGERS!
LET'S GO!
WAAAH
STOP CRYING!

IT'S AN AWFUL SOCIETY GOOD GRIEF!
CAN'T BE HELPED IT'S DANGEROUS THESE DAYS...
THEN YOU HAVE A DAY OFF AT WORK?
AH...
I WAS A DAYCARE TEACHER... BUT, I QUIT RECENTLY...
AND NOW I'M JOB HUNTING...
OH MY! I THOUGHT YOU WERE A HIGH-SCHOOLER!
EHM, I'M A 22-YEAR-OLD WORKING ADULT...
YOU HAVE THE DAY OFF SCHOOL?
I'M OFTEN TOLD THAT HA HA
OH, THIS AUNTIE* ASKED SOMETHING UNNECESSARY AGAIN
BUT WHAT A COINCIDENCE THAT YOU ARE A DAYCARE TEACHER
MY FAMILY HAS A DELI AND WE MAKE MEALS FOR THE NEIGHBOR-HOOD DAY CARE!
WELL, THEY ONLY STARTED LAST YEAR, BUT IT SEEMS THEY HAVE VARIOUS TROUBLES ROUGH GOING FOR THE DAY CARE TOO
*SHE IS REFERRING TO HER-SELF
KYA HA HA HA
OH!
You'll learn a lot!
Learn?
AH, NO I...
THAT DAY CARE IS HIRING TEACHERS HOW ABOUT IT?
THE PRINCIPAL THERE IS SO HANDSOME~ GOOD HEAVENS!!

ACK!
WE ARE LOOKING FOR ONE NOW...
HAVE YOU ALREADY DECIDED ON A DAY CARE?
SUCH A CUTE KID!
This is why braids are
HE'S THE MAN FROM BEFORE ....
AH!
PERFECT TIMING.
PRINCIPAL ~~~~~~~~~~!!
EEH !?

AH...
It's Kimiko!
Ah!
KIMIKO-SAN!?
PRINCIPAL!
COULD THAT DAY CARE BE...
OH REALLY?
I'LL DISCUSS IT WITH MY HUSBAND
IT WAS HIS DAY CARE ...!!!

PICKING UP WOMEN ON THE JOB...!?
THAT'S SUDDENLY HE SAID HE COULDN'T COME
MORE-OVER, YOU CAN'T GO FOR A WALK ALONE!
BE QUIET! IT'S PART OF THE JOB!
OH MY, WHAT A HOPE-LESS PRINCI-PAL~
Kimiko, principal was picking up women again
BUT WHY ARE YOU ON THE WALK WITH THEM? DIDN'T THE NEW BOY START TODAY?


snap
MIDDLE...
HE LOOKS YOUNG BUT HE'S A SPLENDID WORKING ADULT A DAYCARE TEACHER!
KIMIKO-SAN, SO YOU ARE ALSO PICKING UP MIDDLE SCHOOLERS?
I MET THIS BOY JUST NOW
EHM, IT'S 'BOUT TIME !...
WHILE I'M STILL NOT INVOLVED
AH' RIGHT

THAT'S RIGHT, EHM, WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
I'M FU...
FUKUDA IKU...
DAYCARE TEACHER?
HM? YOU SEEM FAMILIAR
N
NO, THAT'S
AH
YOU'RE THAT SUSPICIOUS PERSON THAT WAS IN FRONT OF THE DAY CARE!!
ARE YOU FRIENDS?
WHO ARE YOU CALLING SUSPICIOUS!!!

O-OF COURSE NOT!!!
SEE HE'S HANDSOME, RIGHT?
IT'LL BE EASY SINCE YOU KNOW EACH OTHER
IKKUN
DID YOU PER-HAPS
HOPE TO JOIN OUR DAY CARE?
I WAS JUST PASSING BY...
ha ha
SO
YOU'RE A DAYCARE TEACHER

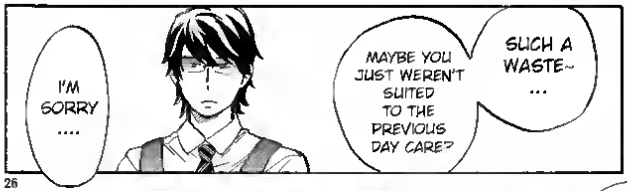
IKU-SENSEI
SORRY FOR THE LATE INTRO-DUCTION
AND I DIDN'T EVEN WANT TO KNOW HIM!
WE DON'T!!

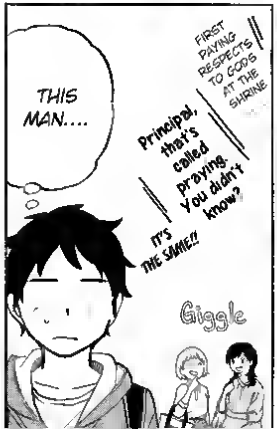
OOTORI KYOU-ICHIROU
OOTORI DAY CARE
I'M THE PRINCIPAL OF THAT DAY CARE
OOTORI DAY CARE
Principal
OOTORI KYOUICHIROU
OOTORI
HEY, YOU!
What did you get?
Show us! Show us!

LET'S GREET HIM!
GO-OD-AF-TER-NO-ON!!
Uwaah...
GOOD AFTER-NOON
AH
WHAT DAY CARE DO YOU WORK AT?
QUIT?
EVEN THOUGH I SAID I'M A DAYCARE TEACHER,
I QUIT MY JOB...
STILL, THIS FEELS SO NICE ...

AH, IT'S FINE! IT'S FINE!
I'M.. THINKING ABOUT GIVING UP BEING A DAYCARE TEACHER..
HOW ABOUT PRINCIPAL'S DAY CARE? YOU WERE HIRING BOYS, WEREN'T YOU---?
AH, RIGHT. AND YOU SAID YOU WERE LOOKING FOR A JOB?

I'VE ALWAYS ADMIRED THAT JOB THOUGH...
THAT'S.. BECAUSE I'M NOT SUITABLE FOR IT..
OH MY, WHY?


I'M SORRY....
MAYBE YOU JUST WEREN'T SUITED TO THE PREVIOUS DAY CARE?
SUCH A WASTE~ ...


THIS MAN....
FIRST PAYING RESPECTS TO GOD'S AT THE SHRINE
Principal, that's called praying. You didn't know?
IT'S THE SAME!!
Giggle

OKAY, OKAY! FIRST PAYING RESPECTS AT THE SHRINE!
WE'LL PLAY AFTER THAT!
Respects ---?

Princi-pal, let's play

T/N HIGH HIGH UP MEANS TO TOSS THEM IN THE AIR
T/N "PLUMP BEAR-SAN" SEE THE NOTE
IT'S DANGEROUS SO NO!!
High high up!
HEY! STOP NAGGING ME!
But that's what Aruto-sensei said
HE HAS SUCH POOR SKILLS AT HANDLING CHILDREN
OR RATHER HE'S BAD AT IT?
WELL, IT SEEMS THERE IS A PRINCIPAL THAT HAS NO EXPERIENCE WITH CHILDCARE..
Let's play "Plump Bear-San"!
DOO! DOO!

BUT IT'S SO NICE...
AND THE KIDS SEEM TO HAVE FUN TOO...
EVEN THIS MAN WORKS AT A DAY CARE
I WONDER WHY I COULDN'T DO IT?

FLOP
Haa
GEEZ!
EVERYONE, LET'S GO SEE INARI-SAN WITH KIMIKO!
YAY!
THANK YOU
IT'S FINE MOREOVER, WE ARE NON-ACCREDITED
KIMIKO-SAN LOOKS AFTER THEM SOMETIMES
NON-ACCREDITED HUH
...IS IT OKAY?
LEAVING THEM TO SOMEONE UNRELATED ...?
AH?

YOU'VE BEEN ADMIRING DAYCARE TEACHERS FOR A LONG TIME, HUH...
YOU MUST LIKE CHILDREN THEN...
YES...

I HATE THEM THOUGH

HUH?

KIDS ARE MESSY
NOISY
EH...
IF IT WASN'T FOR THE JOB, I WOULD NEVER GET CLOSE TO SUCH CREATURES ....
CREA-TURES...
OOPS, SORRY!
ha ha ha
BUT I CONSIDER MIDDLE SCHOOLERS AS HUMANS!
IS THAT ABOUT ME!?

TH-THEN WHY...
WHY DO YOU WORK IN A DAY CARE!?
IT CAN'T BE HELPED
IT'S MY MOM'S LAST REQUEST
LAST..?

THEN WHY DID THE IKKUN WHO LIKES KIDS SO-O MUCH,
GIVE UP BEING A DAYCARE TEACHER?
THAT'S
FROM THE LOOKS OF IT, YOU QUIT ONE MONTH AFTER GRADUATING?
2 MONTHS!!
WHAT-EVER
I WAS DUMB-FOUNDED TO HEAR YOU SAY "I'VE BEEN ADMIRING IT FOR A LONG TIME"
32
IT WAS PROBABLY TOO LOW-PAID OR TOO BUSY, RIGHT?
hmph
GEEZ THERE SHOULD BE A LIMIT TO BEING A WUSS
TH-THAT'S NOT IT!
I...
COULDN'T WORK AT THAT DAY CARE...
YOU PROBABLY THOUGHT IT WAS AN EASY JOB WHERE YOU GET MONEY BY PLAYING WITH KIDS
LISTEN! A DAYCARE TEACHER IS...

A SLAVE TO MAMAS!
SLAVE ...!!?

THAT'S RIGHT!! WHILE ALL PARENTS SAY IT'S FOR THEIR CHILDREN
THEY LOOK FOR A DAY CARE THAT CAN SATISFY THEM
A DAYCARE TEACHER, OR SO TO SAY A HOST.
IS IN A SERVICE BUSINESS TO MEET THE DEMANDS OF HIS CUSTOMERS, THE MAMAS!!
SUCH EXTREME WORDS...!!
ONLY SATISFYING PARENTS, YOU PUT THE CHILDREN AFTER!?
THEN A QUESTION TO IKKUN
WHO LOVES A KID THE MOST?
EH?
MA MAMA?
34
RIGHT!?
NOTHING'S WRONG WITH PROVIDING BIG SERVICE TO MAMAS!!!
IF HIS BELOVED MAMA IS HAPPY, THE KID WILL BE HAPPY TOO!!

WHEN AN INEXPERIENCED DAYCARE TEACHER BELITTLES PARENTS' DEMANDS BECAUSE IT'S NOT FOR THE KIDS' SAKE AND SUCH
AND AS A RESULT THE PARENT'S DISSATISFACTION COMES BACK TO THE CHILD
IS THIS REALLY FOR KID'S SAKE?
!
THIS PRINCIPAL...
WHAT HE'S SAYING IS SO SKEWED...
SMOOTH COMMUNICATION WITH THE MAMAS IS THE MOST IMPORTANT PART OF THE JOB!
AND THEY MUST BE EVEN HAPPIER TO BE SERVED BY A HANDSOME MAN LIKE ME!
NO! YOU CAN'T PROVIDE DECENT CHILDCARE WITHOUT SATISFYING THE PARENTS!
A DAY CARE IS A PLACE FOR KIDS...
THAT'S WEIRD!
35
SHIMAMURA SAN DID YOU PROPERLY CHECK HIS BAG?
ONLY HIROTO-KUN DIDN'T BRING HIS MILK
BUT AT MY PREVIOUS DAY CARE...
HELPING OUT THE PARENTS TOO AND RAISING CHILDREN TOGETHER WITH THEM IS THE BEST FOR THE KIDS...
EV...
EVEN I UNDERSTAND THAT...

I'M SORRY...
BUT IT'LL BE A PROBLEM FOR US IF IT CONTINUES
I'M SORRY
HOW MANY TIMES WAS IT ALREADY?
I KNOW THAT IT'S HARD FOR YOU WITH YOUR LITTLE BROTHER IN THE HOSPITAL ...
I'M SORRY! SORRY!
IT'S ALRIGHT
HIRO-TO-KUN, LET'S GO!
YAY!
IKU-SENSEI...!
SHIMURA-SAN,
IF YOU LIKE...
Sensei, a plastic bottle!
AH!!
GOOD MORNING!
AH
EHM...
SIT HERE
FUKUDA-SENSEI!
COME HERE FOR A MINUTE!

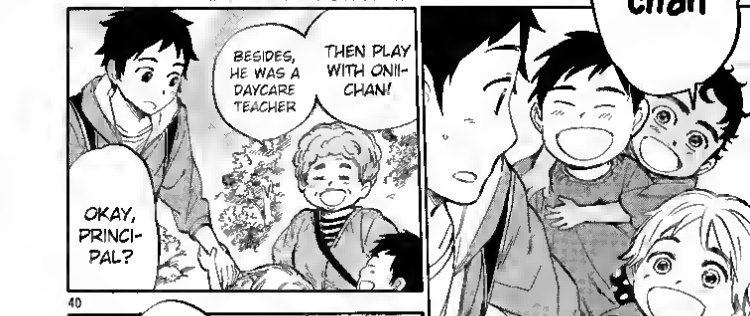
HIROTO-KUN ISN'T THE ONLY ONE IN THE NURSERY
ISN'T HE INTERESTED IN SHIMAMURA SAN?
THIS IS WHY IT'S A PROBLEM FOR US!
I-I JUST WANTED TO HEL...
MOMO-CHAN'S MAMA TOLD US
THIS MORNING YOU SECRETLY GAVE SHIMAMURA-SAN THE BOTTLE THAT SHE FORGOT
.....
HONESTLY, IT'D BE BETTER IF A KID
FROM A PROBLEMATIC FAMILY LIKE THAT JUST QUITS
WE CAN'T TREAT A FATHER-LESS FAMILY DIFFERENTLY
ARE YOU GOING TO PROVIDE CHILDCARE WHILE BEING CLOSE TO ONE FAMILY ALL OF THE TIME?
IT'S ALRIGHT TO HAVE HIGH IDEALS WHEN YOU ARE YOUNG, BUT
THERE ARE OTHER PARENTS WHO ARE FUSSY ABOUT THAT
DON'T DO UNNECESSARY THINGS!
A BUNCH OF KIDS WANT TO ENROLL HERE
BESIDES, THERE ARE A LOT OF CHILDREN ON THE WAITING LIST

...
IT WAS UNFOR-GIVABLE ...
CUTTING OFF A FRAIL MAMA...
THEN
WHY ARE YOU HERE?
IN THE END, YOU ABANDONED THAT MAMA AND RAN AWAY

ahaha...
.....
IT'D BE A NUISANCE TO MAMAS AND KIDS THAT WERE LEFT BEHIND
WE DEFINITELY WON'T HIRE SOMEONE LIKE YOU WHO ONLY GIVES EMPTY WORDS AND ABANDONS PEOPLE AT ONCE
I CAN'T CATCH UP WITH YOU ANYMORE~
EVERYONE IS SO FAST
WE~ WELCOME BACK~
We saw fox-san!
hea hea
Did you have fun with principal?
A L-LITTLE
WE'RE BACK!
TA-DAH
Waah
Chit-chat~?
It's what mama often does!
Chit-chat~
IT WAS JUST A CHIT-CHAT!

Principal, what are we gonna play next?
Hey! Hey!
JUST PLAY TAG!
Eeh! Again?
.....
Then, Kimiko, you'll be "it"!
KIMIKO IS STILL TIRED, LET ME REST FOR A BIT

T/N: ONII-CHAN = BIG BROTHER



WAH!
aha ha ha!
HEY YOU!!! DON'T PUT JUNK IN THERE!!
Principal--
It's nothing much but please accept it
T/N IT'S A STANDART PHRASE USED WHEN GIVING GIFTS. BUT IT CAN ALSO MEAN JUNK OR TRASH OR WORTHLESS
Princi-pal is "it"!!!
AH!

I WAS DUMBFOUNDED TO HEAR YOU SAY "YOU'VE BEEN ADMIRING IT FOR A LONG TIME!"
IT'S NOT A LIE...!!!
I LOVE KIDS VERY MUCH...
FROM LONG AGO I ALWAYS WANTED TO BECOME....
YOU'LL FALL!!
LOOK AHEAD!
Don't wanna

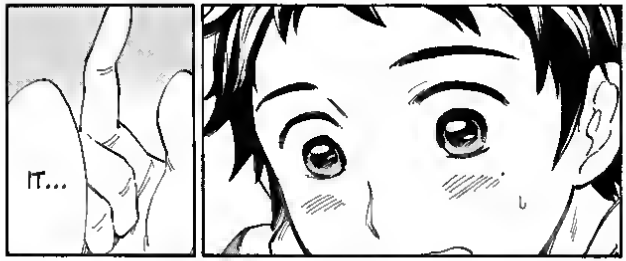
HEY! DON'T GO TOWARDS THE POND!
Try to catch us--
HEY! LISTEN TO ME!
aha ha ha
.....

EEEH!!!
HEY YOU, COME BACK TOO!
IT'S BECAUSE YOU GOT CARRIED AWAY
SEE, I TOLD YOU!
WAAAAAH
FALLS!
It's not over yet!
THE TAG PLAY IS OVER!
NO
We still wanna play!

squeeze
NOW, NOW, PRINCIPAL, DO YOUR BEST!
I...
THAT'S WHY KIDS ARE !
COMPLETELY OUT OF CONTROL!
aha ha ha

AT-TEN-TI-ON!
EVERY-ONE!
IT'S STAR-TING!

Wah
It's starting!
Run
It's star-ting!

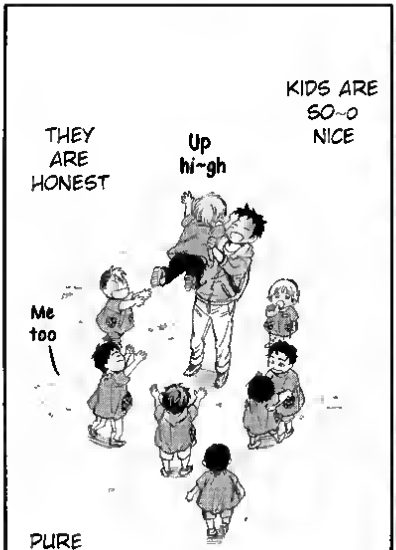

IT...

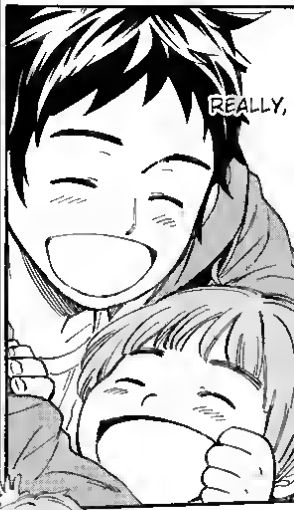
It's starting,
It's♪ starting
one and one make

Ninja
FWOOSH!
T/N SOUND OF NINJA APPEARING
It's starting, it's starting
two and
two make
three and
three make
cat's whiskers
Meow!

OH, SEEMS SO FUN
four and
four make ...
hmph

I CAUGHT YOU!


KIDS ARE SO~O NICE
THEY ARE HONEST
Up hi~gh
Me too
PURE

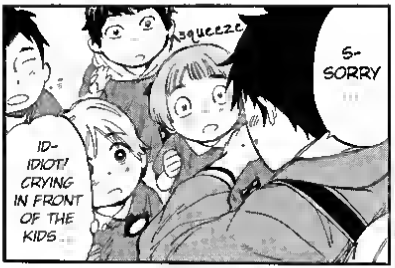

REALLY,

AND IT'S FUN
IKU! EXPLAIN IT PROPERLY!!

A DAYCARE TEACHER IS A WOMAN'S JOB, ISN'T IT!?
I'M NOT CONVINCED! WITH YOUR REASON THAT "YOU LIKE CHILDREN"!
AUNTIE WILL UNDER-STAND IT SOON
I'M SORRY
I'M SORRY
IN THE END, YOU ABANDONED THAT MAMA AND RAN AWAY

HE REALLY LOVES KIDS...
ISN'T HE FINE, PRINCI-PAL!
RATHER THAN SAYING HE LOVES KIDS...
WELL
IT FEELS LIKE THERE'S JUST MORE KIDS
One more! One more!
I'm next

IS NOT ENOUGH...
JUST
LOV-
ING
KIDS
...


squeeze
S-SORRY
ID-IDIOT! CRYING IN FRONT OF THE KIDS

AH...

...

sigh
Made him cry!
Made him cry!

?

WHAT !?
Made him cry!
Principal made him cry!!
Made him cry!!

I'M NOT CRYING BECAUSE OF WHAT YOU SAID....
GEEZ.. CRYING JUST FROM BEING REJECTED
YOU'RE MORE OF A CHILD THAN I THOUGHT
AH... SORRY
51
Onichan, are you alright?
Were you bullied by principal?
Pat
UP HIGH, WAS IT...

Principal is the Evil Emperor!
Tell me if he bullies you again!
I'll beat him up!

HEY, HEY!
WHO IS THE EVIL EMPEROR?
OH MY EXACTLY SO

THANK YOU...
hugs
I'M ALL RIGHT NOW

HA HA HA
PFT...

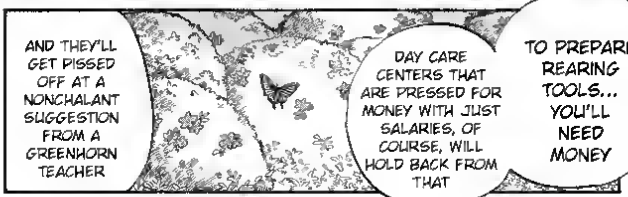
SORRY, SORRY!

PAIN, PAIN, FLY AWAY!
Oniichan, are you okay!?
YEP! I'M OKAY, OKAY!
Defeat!
We'll defeat principal together!
KIMIKO WILL COMFORT YOU TOO♡
GEEZ HOW PATHETIC
BEING COMFORTED BY KIDS
flap
WOW, SO PRETTY!
Butterfly!!
Ah! A butterfly!!
AH...
I REALLY... WANTED TO DO THAT...
EH?

PROVIDING THE FOOD AND FREQUENT CLEANING!
HMPH, OF COURSE
IF YOU FAIL TO MANAGE THE TEMPERATURE, BUTTERFLIES GET SICK IMMEDIATELY
IT'S NO EASY MATTER TO RAISE A BUTTERFLY

AT MY PREVIOUS DAY CARE I SAID THAT I WANTED TO RAISE A BUTTERFLY WITH THE KIDS
BUT THEY COMPLETELY BRUSHED IT OFF
OH MY, IS THAT SO~~

YOU'RE EXAGGERATING...
DID YOU THINK THROUGH THAT!?
AND IF YOU CARELESSLY LET IT DIE, THE KIDS MAY BE TRAUMATIZED FOR LIFE


AND THEY'LL GET PISSED OFF AT A NONCHALANT SUGGESTION FROM A GREENHORN TEACHER
DAY CARE CENTERS THAT ARE PRESSED FOR MONEY WITH JUST SALARIES, OF COURSE, WILL HOLD BACK FROM THAT
TO PREPARE REARING TOOLS... YOU'LL NEED MONEY

BASED ON THAT...
.....
BUT IF IT'S A PROJECT YOU WANT TO DO THAT MUCH, IT'S YOUR FAULT FOR NEGLECTING TO BUILD RELATIONS WITH PEOPLE!

DO IT HERE!
BE-CAUSE I ALSO HATE IN-SECTS!
Butterfly!
We'll raise a butter-fly?
You mean...
TAKE FULL RESPONSI-BILITY FOR IT
I'LL CHECK ONLY THE BUDGET
...HUH?

EVEN IF YOU CALL IT A DAY CARE...
IT'S NOT A DREAM WORLD WHERE YOU ONLY PLAY WITH CHILDREN
IT'S THE REAL WORLD RELATED TO ADULTS, MONEY AND LAW

COMPARED TO THE PAST, THE NUMBER OF MALES WHO WANT TO BE A DAYCARE TEACHER HAS INCREASED BUT
THE IMAGE THAT IT'S A WOMAN'S JOB IS STILL STRONG
YOU UNDERSTAND THAT IT'S NOT A JOB YOU CAN DO WITH ONLY YOUR DREAMS
WELL, I DON'T CARE ABOUT YOUR DREAMS, BUT

IF YOU'RE PREPARED TO HELP MOTHERS AND CHILDREN EVEN BY BECOMING A SLAVE
TRY IT ONE MORE TIME

YOU REGRET IT SO MUCH YOU CRIED, RIGHT?

CALL HIM IKU-SENSEI!

Onii-chan, will you become a sensee?
THAT'S RIGHT

I'LL...
WAAAAH
Iku-sen-see!!
ONE MORE TIME...
EVEN IF IT'S PAINFUL, EVEN IF IT'S HARD I WANT TO MAKE MY "LOVE" INTO A JOB!
END OF CHAPTER 1

NOTE 1:

DAY CARE CENTER PROVIDES CHILDCARE FULL DAY FOR KIDS OF DIFFERENT AGE WHOSE PARENTS ARE WORKING OR NEED THE CARE FOR SOME REASON. IT OFFERS EVERYTHING A GOOD NURSERY OR PRESCHOOL DOES PLUS MEALTIMES AND A NAP.

NON-ACCREDITED DAYCARE - THEY DON'T RECEIVE GOVERMENT AID, BUT THE DAYCARE ISN'T BOUND BY OFFICIAL REGULATIONS AND CAN OFFER ADDITIONAL SERVICES. FOR EXAMPLE, ACCREDITED DAYCARES IN JAPAN CAN ONLY TAKE CHILDREN WHOSE PARENTS BOTH WORK. ***NON-ACCREDITED*** DAY CARE CENTERS CAN TAKE KIDS EVEN IF THEIR PARENTS ARE HOUSEWIFE / HOUSEHUSBAND AND CAN OFFER MORE HOURS OF WORKING. SOME OF THOSE CENTERS EVEN TAKE SICK CHILDREN.

KINDERGARTEN IS ESSENTIALLY "GRADE ZERO", AN EDUCATIONAL PREPARATION FOR SCHOOL. KIDS ARE TAUGHT THE BASICS OF LEARNING. THEIR FIRST ATTEMPT AT READING, WRITING AND UNDERSTANDING ALPHABETS AND NUMBERS BEGIN HERE. IT'S USUALLY A HALF-DAY OR SHORTENED DAY SCHEDULE. IT IS BASED ON AN ACADEMIC MODEL, ALBEIT AT A VERY BASIC LEVEL.

"**SENSEE**" IS A CHILDISH CUTE WAY OF SAYING "*SENSEI*" / *TEACHER*.

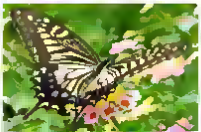
NII / ONIICHAN MEANS AN OLDER BROTHER OR AN OLDER BROTHER FIGURE

-SAN IS A POLITE WAY TO ADDRESS SOMEONE. MR. / MRS. / MISS / MS.

KIMIKO OFTEN REFERS TO HERSELF IN A THIRD PERSON AS "KIMIKO" OR "AUNTIE"

INARI IS THE JAPANESE SHINTO GOD/GODDESS OF FOXES, OF FERTILITY, RICE, TEA AND SAKE, OF AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRY, OF GENERAL PROSPERITY AND WORLDLY SUCCESS.

YANESEN IS A COMBINATION OF THE FIRST SYLLABLE OF THE TOWNS OF YANAKA, NEZU AND SENDAGI. IT'S A DISTRICT IN TOKYO WHICH HAS MANY HISTORICAL STRUCTURES, THE TRADITIONAL STYLE OF EDO-PERIOD TOKYO. IT WAS ALSO A PLACE MUCH-LOVED BY MANY LITERARY MASTERS, SUCH AS MORI OUGAI, NATSUME SOUSEKI AND OTHERS, WHO ONCE LIVED THERE AND USED IT AS SETTINGS FOR THEIR BOOKS.



THE TYPE OF BUTTERFLY THAT IKU WANTS TO RAISE IS **THE ASIAN SWALLOWTAIL** (*PAPILIO XUTHUS*).

NEXT ->

NOTE 2:

FUKUDA MEANS **"BLESSED RICE FIELD"**. RICE FIELDS IN JAPAN REPRESENT A TIMELESS PART OF JAPAN'S LANDSCAPE, HISTORY AND CULTURE.

IKU MEANS **"RAISING"**. THE KANJI "RAISING" IS ALSO USED IN DAY-CARE AND EDUCATION.

OOTORI MEANS **"A LARGE BIRD"** OR **"PENG"** AND SYMBOLIZES "GREATNESS; GREAT PROMISE; GREAT ACCOMPLISHMENTS".

KYOUICHIROU MEANS **"A GUY WHO TEACHES"**.

PLUMP BEAR-SAN IS A SIMPLE TAG GAME. KIDS AND TEACHERS SING AND MOVE IN A RING AROUND "SLEEPING BEAR". WHEN THE BEAR WAKES UP HE TRIES TO CATCH KIDS TO "EAT" THEM. THE ONE WHO GETS CAUGHT IS THE NEXT "BEAR".

MANEKI-NEKO IS A "BECKONING CAT" WHICH IS BELIEVED TO BRING GOOD LUCK TO THE OWNER. THE RAISED LEFT PAW BRINGS IN CUSTOMERS.

"IT'S STARTING" SONG:

1 AND 1
MAKE NINJA-SAN

2 AND 2
MAKE CRAB-SAN

3 AND 3
MAKE CAT'S WHISKERS

4 AND 4
MAKE OCTOPUS'S LEGS

5 AND 5
THEN PUT HANDS ON YOUR KNEES
(JAPANESE USUAL STANCE. ALSO TEACHES KIDS TO BE QUIET)